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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# South Asia Earthquake

November 4, 2005 - Update

## TEMPORARY HOSPITALS ERECTED

In Chattar Plain, Pakistan, Dr. Shoaib Khan stood back among the rubble of his former hospital and watched as a large tent, donated by the U.S. government, was erected. It will serve as a makeshift hospital in this remote area of northern Pakistan, a region badly affected by the earthquake. "We needed this so badly," says Dr. Shoaib. "We don't have any buildings left to work in."

An estimated 65% of health infrastructure has been destroyed in affected areas, making it almost impossible to respond to medical needs. USAID has responded with distributions of tents and other provisions, including medical supplies and furniture. The Chattar Plain facility is responsible for 50,000 people, therefore USAID provided a large tent for medical treatment and four smaller tents for staff.

USAID has also supplied tents and medicines to clinics in Shinkari and in the area surrounding the town of Battagram.



*Tents donated by USAID temporarily serve as the local hospital in Chattar Plain, Pakistan.*



*A USAID sponsored doctor helps a little girl whose leg was injured during the earthquake.*

## ...WHILE MEDICAL TEAMS TREAT THE INJURED

USAID works to provide critical emergency assistance in the Siran and Konch valleys of the Mansehra District in Pakistan's North West Frontier Province. These efforts will provide an estimated 80,000 people in earthquake-affected communities with primary health care services, clean water, rubble clearance and emergency shelter reconstruction.

The severe structural damage in these areas has left the majority of homes, schools, water systems and health care facilities almost completely destroyed. In response, the U.S. government has established four tented 'expanded' basic health units in Hillkot and Jhal Gali Union Councils in the Konch Valley, and Panjol and Nawazabad Union Council in the Siran Valley.

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## Earthquake Update Continued

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Photo: USAID

*A little boy from Batagram District enjoys some food and water in the sun.*

### USAID RESPONSE CONTINUES

The total value of emergency relief supplies, including transport, is approximately \$4 million. The airlifts have delivered materials including:

45,000	Blankets
6,150	Rolls of Plastic Sheeting (for approx. 30,750 families)
15,000	Water Containers
17	Water Bladders
2	Water Purification Units
10	WHO Emergency Health Kits (each kit serves 10,000 people for 3 months)
20	Concrete Cutting Saws

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These units provide approximately 470 patients with essential health care services each day. Initially, the vast majority of patients required treatment for earthquake-related trauma such as fractures, lacerations, head injuries and secondary infections, including gangrene. Now, approaching the fourth week after the earthquake, the effects of cold weather, unsafe drinking water, poor housing and nutrition are becoming more evident as clinics are treating an increasing number of patients, particularly young children, for acute respiratory infections (such as pneumonia) and diarrhoeal diseases.

### RESPITE FROM TRAUMA

Today, the children of the earthquake-ravaged Pakistani village of Jessul in Batagram District can play in safety. They are among the first in their district to receive a safe play space, monitored by trained community volunteers, that is allowing children to develop a routine and create a sense of normalcy in an otherwise chaotic time. USAID provides the play kit (a large metal trunk containing a set of toys, paper and crayons), a large mat, and training and support for volunteers.

Located in a difficult to access area 30 minutes outside of the District center, Jessul lost most of its homes and structures to the earthquake and aftershocks. Almost everyone in the village has moved into tents because their houses are either unsound or have collapsed.

Throughout Batagram District, USAID works with communities to organize activities primarily for children ages 4–10. At least 40 safe play spaces will be established within the next two to three weeks, benefiting about 3,000 children.



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Photo: MercyCorps

Emergency relief supplies reach displaced families in Hillkot, Hazara District, Pakistan.

### USAID PROVIDES FOOD

USAID has responded to the UN World Food Program's emergency operation for Pakistan with 2,400 metric tons of vegetable oil and 480 metric tons of wheat soy blend. The total value of this contribution is \$3.4 million.



Photo: USAID

Wheat donated by the US Government is distributed to populations in earthquake affected areas

### FAST FACTS:

#### Government of Pakistan estimates:

Death toll: approx. 73,000\*

Injured: approx. 79,000

*\*Significant increase in death toll is attributed to Government's improved identification of casualties.*

#### Government of India estimates :

Death toll: 1,308

Injured: more than 6,600

### U.S. Assistance as of November 4, 2005:

#### Total USG Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Pledged: \$156,000,000

USAID has provided more than \$41.8 million in humanitarian assistance, including nine completed airlifts of relief supplies, to Pakistan and more than \$600,000 in assistance to India.

USAID committed funds to the UN, other international organizations, and NGOs. This includes \$14.3 million in response to the UN Flash Appeal and support to 10 international NGOs in Pakistan and India.

Specifically, this includes:

- \$3 million in shelter relief
- \$2 million in water and sanitation
- \$2 million in health programs
- \$7.3 million for humanitarian relief operations (airlifts, food, logistics, administration)

For more information on the earthquake and USAID's work, please see "South Asia Earthquake" at [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov).